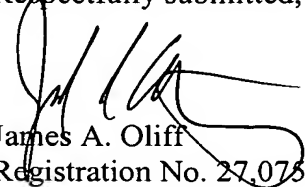


**REMARKS**

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 5, 7-8 and 10 are amended. Claims 12-18 are new.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,078

Joel S. Armstrong  
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/mlo

Date: December 22, 2003

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<p><b>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION</b> Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
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